

Janet T. Mills
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Commissioner



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MAINECARE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, July 9th, 2019

PRESENT

Tom Leet
Sarah Grant
Molly Slotznick
Esther Bullard
Kathy Adams
Judy Bowen
Lydia Dawson
Leo Delicata
Gia Drew
Al Durgin
Pat Ende
Michael Hallandbaeh
Kalie Hess
Jillian Jolicoeur
Kathy Kilrain del Rio
Allison Lowell
Vicki McCarty
Denise Osgood
Chris Pezzullo
Melanie Roger
Judy Seals
Mary Schneckenburger
Karen Shablin
Jeff Tiner
Susan White
Gwen Williams
David Winslow
Dee Sabattus
Lisa Weaver

ON THE PHONE

Michelle Barrows
Heidi Bechard
Candy Henderlee
Jim Martin
Judy Seals
Malory Shaughnessy
Andy Taranko

NEW BUSINESS

Discussion of plan for MAC membership

During the September meeting, a vote will be taken to elect a Chair and a Vice Chair. Seats will be appointed for MAC membership. Sub-committees will be developed.

Also at the September meeting, the MAC will discuss how the group should function.

Kathy Kilrain del Rio and Sarah Grant will touch base to develop a plan for recruiting MaineCare members for MAC membership.

The suggestion was made that the Department reach out to the national association of MACs to get feedback on how things are done in other states MACs.

Discussion of how the MAC might support legislative initiatives, and establishing group priorities

The MAC advises that MaineCare discuss bills as they are being drafted with the MAC to allow the MAC to make recommendations to MaineCare.

The request was made that the Department share legislation it is considering proposing in advance.

The suggestion was made to develop a legislative sub-committee of the MAC. Kathy Kilrain del Rio will be interim chair of the legislative sub group.

Tom also suggested it might be helpful to invite legislative representatives to speak about how the legislative process works and what the best way to communicate with them and/or get legislation in front of them is.

Electronic Visit Verification (“EVV”) and the good faith effort exemption request

Lydia Dawson presented an overview of barriers to EVV implementation. There is a major concern surrounding the use of third-party software. Although Sandata is available to everyone, many providers are not able to use the solution. To satisfy State of Maine requirements, they must supply additional information the Sandata software does not collect. Also, the Sandata solution is not working well in rural areas that have spotty or no internet access. The Sandata software offers a Spanish option, but not a French option. Language barriers are a significant issue, as is the fact that older caregivers don't understand the technology.

The concern was raised regarding how members will deal with EVV use. To date, Sandata has not supplied a list of approved third-party vendors. The MAC would like to know if there are any third-party vendors that are approved currently.

It was noted that Ohio, Pennsylvania, Arizona, and Connecticut are all having issues with Sandata

The MAC is asking that State requests a good faith exemption allowing providers another year to work out the kinks. A good faith request would need to be submitted no later than November.

The MAC is requesting that the State eliminate planned punitive measures and request a good faith exemption sooner rather than later. With a quorum in place, the MAC held a vote that resulted in a decision to ask the State to remove the pend dates currently set for August and October. A second vote was held that resulted in a decision to ask the State to request a good faith exemption as soon as possible.

Leo Delicata noted that an EVV sub-committee could partner with providers and work with the State in coming up with a solution that would cut costs and improve communications.

The concern was raised about the manner in which EIM and Alpha One are dealing with communications with consumers around EVV.

Proposed Language for Chapter I (MAC)

Tom presented the draft of Chapter 1 with the new MAC language. The suggestion was made to replace instances of she/he with they, as Maine recognizes non-binary people.

AGENDA SUGGESTIONS FOR NEXT MEETING

Election of MAC Chair and Vice-chair.

High level overview of how the MAC meetings will go moving forward.

Proposed language to Chapter I, Section 1 with an emphasis on removing the requirement for the MAC Chair to serve on all subcommittees, as well as the removal of the Labor Day language.

Discussion surrounding how the MAC might support legislative initiatives.

Estate recovery discussion.

Update on EVV.

Brief Rule Status update.

ADJOURNMENT